

# ARTICLE ALERT

September 2010

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## POLITICS AND SOCIAL PROCESSES

### **[1] Campaign Finance Reform: Experiences of Two States that Offered Full Public Funding for Political Candidates**

**U.S. Government Accountability Office. May 2010.**

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The 2000 elections in Maine and Arizona were the first in the nation's history where candidates seeking state legislative seats had the option to fully fund their campaigns with public moneys. In 2003, GAO reviewed the public financing programs in Maine and Arizona and found the programs' goals were to (1) increase electoral competition; (2) increase voter choice; (3) curb increases in campaign costs; (4) reduce interest group influence; and (5) increase voter participation.

### **[2] The Hired Guns**

Newsweek, July 26, 2010

Kurlantzick, Joshua

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format, various paging].

Kurlantzick, a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, writes that, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, the number of lobbyists for foreign countries in Washington, D.C. has grown from about 1,800 in 2005 to 1,900 in 2009. Human-rights activists say that the amount of money spent on lobbying has grown at a faster rate -- and by some of the most brutal regimes on earth, including several sanctioned by the U.S. for their human-rights abuses. Angola, one of the most corrupt nations in the world, spent more than \$3 million on lobbying in the first half of 2009. According to the author, the rise in foreign lobbying may have compromised the policymaking of U.S. government officials and may have reduced Washington's pressure on authoritarian regimes. Human-rights activists or government opponents in authoritarian countries are unable to make their case in Washington, or to match the funds spent by their rulers. The result, says Kurlantzick, is that "while thugs get heard in U.S. halls of power, the voices of their opponents remain silent."

**ENVIROMENT AND ENERGY****[3] Germany Leads with Its Goal of 100 Percent Renewable Energy**  
**YaleGlobal. September 7, 2010.****Daniel Boese.**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format, various paging].

Germany is demonstrating steady progress in unshackling itself from fossil fuel dependence by converting to renewable energy sources. Polls show that more than 80 percent of the nation favors development of homegrown wind, sun and geothermal energy alternatives and escape from importing the bulk of oil, gas or uranium from foreign sources. In economic terms, Germany is an early adopter. The large industrial power takes on risks and costs of an untested technology. But it also shapes the world market, setting standards and a global example on energy security, not to mention creating thousands of clean-power jobs or saving countless lives by reducing pollution and conflicts over fossil fuels.

**[4] Climate Change Assessments: Review of the Processes and Procedures of the IPCC**  
**InterAcademy Council. August 30, 2010.**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 113 pages].

Climate change is a long-term challenge that will require every nation to make decisions about how to respond. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme to help inform such decisions by producing comprehensive assessments of what is known about the physical climate system, its global and regional impacts, and options for adaptation and mitigation. The Committee found that the IPCC assessment process has been successful overall. However, the world has changed considerably since the creation of the IPCC, with major advances in climate science, heated controversy on some climate-related issues, and an increased focus of governments on the impacts and potential responses to changing climate.

**[5] The Arctic: A View from Moscow**  
**Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 20, 2010.****Dmitri Trenin and Pavel Baev.**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 44 pages].

The Arctic is emerging as the world's next hot spot for oil and gas development. As the melting ice cap opens new shipping lanes and makes it easier to access strategic energy reserves, countries are racing to gain control over the Arctic's abundant natural resources. The authors offer a view from Moscow on what the opening of the Arctic means. While there is a strong desire to compete over the resources in order to meet increasing energy demands, the authors argue that all countries, with Russia in a leading role, can benefit more through cooperation.

**ECONOMICS AND TRADE ISSUES****[6] Coping with China's Financial Power**  
**Foreign Affairs, vol. 89, no. 4, July/August 2010****Miller, Ken**[Contact IRC for an electronic copy](#)

China has been trying to make the best of its sudden financial might; it has been accumulating vast foreign currency reserves and spending it abroad on direct investment, aid and concessional loans to secure raw materials and new technologies that bolster domestic growth and the Communist Party's legitimacy, says Miller, the head of the banking firm Ken Miller Capital LLC. Miller calls these policies mercantilist, but acknowledges that the resources deployed overseas are relatively small and pale in comparison to what U.S. companies invest abroad. Having been present in the world's financial markets only ten years, China has yet to learn the best ways to achieve its overall domestic goals and be a responsible global financial player. The author outlines a positive scenario of China investing more in developed economies through different instruments. Liberalization of its capital flow policies would prompt Chinese companies to seek more opportunities for cross-border mergers and acquisitions, and lead to the emergence of strong national brands able to expand overseas. Renminbi convertibility would strengthen the China's international financial position and make Shanghai a major financial center. But both strategic shifts would dramatically change the character of the Chinese economic model and could lead to considerable domestic disruptions, Miller concludes.

**[7] Regional Trade Blocs: the Way to the Future?**  
**Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. September 2010.****Alejandro Foxley**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 65 pages].

With global trade talks stalled and lower demand from major economies that were hit hard by the global economic crisis, regional trade agreements are emerging as a way for middle-income countries to increase trade, spur growth, and lower unemployment rates. In the report, the author analyzes how three regions, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and East Asia, are increasing trade within their borders and building a broader free trade system.

**[8] The Global Competitiveness Report 2010-2011**  
**World Economic Forum. September , 2010.**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 515 pages].

Switzerland tops the overall ranking in The Global Competitiveness Report. The U.S. falls two places to fourth position, overtaken by Sweden (2nd) and Singapore (3rd). The Nordic countries continue to be well positioned in the ranking, with Sweden, Finland (7th) and Denmark (9th) among the top 10, and with Norway at 14th. Sweden overtakes the US and Singapore this year to be placed 2nd overall. The United Kingdom, after falling in the rankings over recent years, moves back up by one place to 12th position.

**[9] Silicon Valley Expats Spur Innovation in India**  
**YaleGlobal. September 2, 2010.**

**Sean Randolph.**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format, various paging].

As the US tech industry saw rapid growth during the 1990s, immigrating students and workers from Asia heeded innovation's call. Engineers and programmers from India settled in Silicon Valley and enjoyed immediate success. About one out of six tech startups were launched by immigrants from India. Now some of these tech workers return to India, explains author and trade specialist Sean Randolph. Some head Indian offices for companies like Google or Cisco and others return on their own, with multiple factors driving the exodus: restrictive immigration policies, reduced opportunity in the US accompanied by high rates of growth, a huge market and entrepreneurial opportunities in India.

**[10] Mining the Truth on Coal Supplies**

**National Geographic Daily News, September 8, 2010**

**Inman, Mason**

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Coal burning may have a deleterious effect on the environment, but the conventional assumption is that there is enough coal to fuel global electricity consumption for decades. However, the conclusions of a new study fly in the face of the belief in abundant coal – its authors argue that global coal production could actually peak as early as 2011, and then begin a terminal decline. According to the study, much of the high-quality, easily mineable coal is gone, and what is left has lower energy density per ton, and is more difficult to extract from the ground. Additionally, currently accepted reserve figures may be considerably overstated, as they are based on methods unchanged since the 1970s. If what they predict is true, notes Inman, then a major restructuring and shrinking of the global economy will follow, since coal powers much of global electricity and steel production. They urge greater attention to conservation and improving efficiency of electricity production from coal.

**[11] Ready, Set, Grow**

**Smithsonian, vol. 41, no. 4, July/August 2010, pp. 60-67**

**Kotkin, Joel**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format, various paging]

The population of the United States will likely grow by 100 million people over the next several decades, and urban development expert Joel Kotkin offers a few projections on how the country may be affected. Kotkin predicts this level of population growth will keep the U.S. vibrant while population drops in other developed world nations will lead them into decline. Excerpting his 2010 book THE NEXT HUNDRED MILLION, Kotkin agrees with other demographic predictions that the U.S. growth will be concentrated in immigrant populations. As a result, Hispanic Americans will comprise a larger proportion of the population, and the white population will slide below 50 percent. Contrary to the predictions of others, Kotkin doesn't see this increased population concentrating in major urban centers. Rather, he thinks Americans will continue to choose the suburbs in the future, and predicts that "super fuel efficient cars of the future are likely to spur smart sprawl." Fulfilling the promise of upward mobility for that growing population will be the major

national challenge, the author predicts, and reviving the nation's manufacturing sector will be a key factor in doing so.

## INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

### **[12] Territorial Disputes and Seabed Petroleum Exploitation: Some Options for the East China Sea**

**Brookings Institution. September 2010.**

**Guo Rongxing.**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 36 pages].

Throughout history, physical terrain, political fiat, and conquest have divided states into separate political entities just as much as race, ethnicity, language, and religion. One result is man-made and sometimes arbitrary or even imposed boundaries. Compared to other kinds of cross-border areas, internationally disputed areas are always characterized by undemarcated boundaries as well as political and institutional uncertainties. The paper sets out to analyze the critical analytical and policy issues relating to maritime boundary disputes and undersea hydrocarbon exploitation in the East China Sea.

### **[13] Pipeline Politics of Asia: the Intersection of Demand, Energy Markets, and Supply Routes**

**The National Bureau of Asian Research. September 2010.**

**Edward C. Chow et al.**

[Click here available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 80 pages].

The paper presents key findings from the 2010 Energy Security Conference and explores the strategic, market, and geopolitical ties that have emerged from the rise in pipeline development in Asia. The report includes essays commissioned for the conference focusing on the key pipeline routes in this growing nexus of energy and political ties (Northeast Asia, Central Asia, India, and the China-Myanmar pipelines) as well as an overview of oil and gas pipeline geopolitics and analysis of the implications for the United States.

### **[14] China's View of South Asia and the India Ocean**

**Heritage Foundation. August 31, 2010.**

**Dean Cheng**

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The Indian Ocean is becoming increasingly important to China's economic and security interests. China appears to be pursuing what has been widely characterized as a "string of pearls" strategy of cultivating India's neighbors as friendly states, both to protect its economic and security interests and to balance a "rising India." With Chinese influence in the region growing, it is essential that the U.S. not fall behind in the Indian Ocean, but maintain a steady presence in the region, both to signal its resolve to stay engaged and to avoid the difficulties of reentering a region.

### **[15] Engaging Asia: the Future of U.S. Leadership**

**The National Bureau of Asian Research. September 17, 2010.**

The third annual Engaging Asia conference featured discussion with senior policy leaders and Asia specialists on the economic and strategic trends in the region and the implications for the development of effective U.S. policy. The half-day conference opened with a panel on David M. Lampton's new report, *Power Constrained: Sources of Mutual Strategic Suspicion in U.S.-China Relations* ([Click here for available PDF](#), free through 9/30/2010, Contact IRC after it expires). Michele Flournoy, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, U.S. Department of Defense and Robert D. Hormats, Under Secretary of State for Economic, Energy and Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State delivered remarks. ([Click here for the videos and transcripts](#))

**[16] India's Flawed Nuclear Legislation Leaves U.S.-India Partnership Short  
Heritage Foundation. August 31, 2010.**

**Lisa Curtis**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format]

India's parliament passed a flawed civil nuclear liability law—one that threatens to cast a pall over the historic U.S.–India civil nuclear deal.

**[17] Manhattan Project: the Great Mosque Divide  
YaleGlobal. August 24, 2010.**

**Sadanand Dhume**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format]

A proposal to build an Islamic center two blocks away from the target of the 9/11 attacks steadily moved through New York City's planning process, meeting regulations and winning approval each step of the way. The World Trade Center attacks united the United States for a short while, whereas almost nine years later, the center and plan to "build bridges" raise another in a long line of issues that divide Americans: Conservatives point to a historical pattern of Muslims constructing monuments atop ground sacred to non-Muslims, symbols that galvanize radical Islam. Liberals argue that the plan is in conformity with the freedom of worship guaranteed by the law, that bullying organizers to relocate violates basic constitutional principles. Both sides offer passionate, strong arguments, notes author Sadanand Dhume. Perhaps most threatening to Western civilization is the debate's rancor. Dhume urges conservatives and liberals to find common ground on balancing individual rights with combating radical Islam.

**[18] Does Europe End at the Bosphorus?  
World Policy Journal online, posted August 17, 2010  
Andelman, David**

[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format]

Andelman, editor of the World Policy Journal, notes that Turkey, which has been pursuing the path of a secular, modern democracy, and which has been trying to join the European Union for years and has been consistently turned down, may be finally casting its lot with the Middle East. The most recent sign of Turkey's change of mind was the dramatic confrontation with Israel over the Gaza blockade. Andelman writes that it is ironic that Greece, Turkey's long-time archrival, was admitted to the EU, instead of Turkey -- and Greece's perilous finances now threaten to bring the EU down,



while Turkey's growth rate is substantially higher than any other European country. He thinks it is unlikely that any more countries will be admitted to the EU, given its current precarious state. If Turkey does decide to turn to the Middle East for an alliance, it will most likely join the Gulf Cooperation Council; Turkey recently signed an agreement with Saudi Arabia. Andelman believes that, in the future, more countries will realize that they need to join regional economic and security blocs in order to survive an increasingly turbulent global environment.

**[19] Digital Diplomacy**

**New York Times Magazine, July 18, 2010, pp. 24-29**

**Lichtenstein, Jesse**

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On Twitter, Jared Cohen and Alec Ross are among the most followed of anyone working for the U.S. government, coming in third and fourth after Barack Obama and John McCain. This didn't happen by chance. Their Twitter posts have become an integral part of a new State Department effort to bring diplomacy into the digital age, by using widely available technologies to reach out to citizens, companies and other non-state actors. Traditional forms of diplomacy still dominate, but 21st-century statecraft is not mere corporate rebranding (swapping tweets for broadcasts). Diplomacy may now include such open-ended efforts as the short-message-service (S.M.S.) social-networking program the State Department set up in Pakistan last fall. The State Department recently cut financing for some activist groups based outside Iran that promote democracy and began to focus on providing information technologies that would facilitate communication among dissidents in Iran. Restrictions imposed by U.S. sanctions were lifted to allow for the export of instant-messaging and anti-filtering software.

**[20] For Their Ears Only**

**CQ Weekly, July 17, 2010**

**Starks, Tim**

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In the late 1940s, early in the Cold War, Congress enacted the Smith-Mundt Act, designed to keep the State Department from the domestic use of propaganda aimed at foreign audiences. In July, two House members introduced legislation to dismantle Smith-Mundt, saying that it makes no sense in an era of the Internet and satellite communications, and may be interfering with efforts to combat terrorism. The Pentagon, which has embraced some of the law's precepts, have complained that Smith-Mundt prevents them from disseminating false information to deceive insurgents for fear that the bogus reports might end up getting republished as truth in the U.S.; the State Department recently prohibited a public radio station in Minneapolis from rebroadcasting Voice of America Somali-language broadcasts to the area's large Somali émigré community, even though there was nothing to prevent the station from airing broadcasts from terrorist groups in Somalia. The author notes that Smith-Mundt has not kept up with technology, and is complicating diplomacy in the age of global terrorism.

**EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

**[21] Closing the Digital Frontier**

**Atlantic Monthly, July/August 2010****Hirschorn, Michael**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [HTML format, various paging]

The Internet's founding ideology -- that information should be free, and that attempts to constrain it are not only hopeless but immoral -- is crumbling under the onslaught of applications ("apps"), smart phones, and pricing plans. The shift of the digital frontier from the Web, where the browser ruled supreme, to the smart phone, where the "app" and the pricing plan now hold sway, is far from a given, however, especially with the under-30 crowd accustomed to free content. The prospect of paying hundreds or thousands of dollars yearly for print, audio, and video on expensive new devices is not going to be an easy sell. Even so, media companies see profits to be made from pushing their best and most timely content through their apps instead of their Web sites.

**[22] Challenges of Maintaining Academic Integrity in an Age of Collaboration, Sharing and Social Networking****15th Annual TCC Worldwide Online Conference 2010 Proceedings, April 20-22, 2010.****Kirsti A. Dyer.**[Click here for available text on the Internet](#) [PDF format, 28 pages]

The author, an adjunct instructor at Madonna University, examines the challenges faculty and academic institutions are facing in maintaining academic integrity in the digital age, particularly the misuse of technology in the classroom.

**U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES****[23] Hopi Footraces And American Marathons, 1912-1930****American Quarterly, Vol. 62, No. 1, March 2010, pp. 77-102****Gilbert, Matthew Sakiestewa**[Contact IRC for an electronic copy](#)

American Indian runners became important athletes and representatives of the United States in the Olympic Games, despite the fact that American Indians had not yet been granted full citizenship. In 1912 the Los Angeles Times sponsored a marathon to find a candidate for the 1912 Olympics that would be held in Stockholm, Sweden. Surprisingly, two Hopi Indian contestants from the Sherman Institute Indian school significantly outdistanced everyone, winning the race and drawing attention to the Hopi expertise in long-distance running, a traditional sport in that tribe. The winner of the Los Angeles race, Philip Zeyouma, was selected for the Olympics but declined to go. Two other Indians, Jim Thorpe and Louis Tewanima did compete at Stockholm in 1912, briefly transcending the racism of the era.